

# READ TO ACHIEVE

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321 schools are participating in the RTA grant this year, servicing approximately 7709 students.

Almost 94% of the RTA teachers have experience teaching primary school.

RTA teaching experience ranges from 3 years to 43 years, with almost 40% having 20 or more years of teaching experience.

57% of RTA students received instruction in weeks one or two of the school year.

In a 2004 meta-analysis, Guthrie and Humenick found that the two most powerful instructional design factors for improving reading motivation and comprehension were *student access to many books and personal choice of what to read*. Some teachers say they find it difficult to provide a wide selection of texts because of budget constraints. However there is always money for workbooks, photocopying, and computers whereas no evidence indicates that workbooks, photocopies, or computer tutorial programs have ever improved students' reading performance (Cunningham & Stanovich, 1998; Dynarski, 2007).

## Changes

If there are any RTA contact changes at your school, please notify me so I can make sure I get future information to the correct people. If you know of someone who is not on my contact list and wishes to be, please let me know that as well.

According to Richard Allington, Professor of Education at the University of Tennessee, teachers have a higher impact on children than parents when it comes to high reading achievement.

When students had high quality teachers in grades 1, 3, and 5 fewer than one fourth had low reading achievement in fifth grade. When students had low quality teachers in grades 1, 3, and 5 as many as three fourths of the students had low reading



**Please remember that your RTA grant is a legal binding document. The program you agreed to implement must be the one used in RTA. You may supplement it with another program if you have filed an amendment and the amendment is approved.**

When progress monitoring your students, be sure to date each probe. This seems like such a simple thing, but in the rush of things to accomplish sometimes the date is omitted from the data. This poses a problem later on when reviewing data to see if adequate progress is being made in a timely fashion.

## Important Dates

### October 18-20

Kentucky Reading Association Annual Conference  
Lexington Hyatt and Convention Center

### October 22

RTA Steering Committee  
Room 112  
Capital Plaza  
Tower

9:00 a.m. ET

### November 27

Second of the quarterly webinars  
2:00 p.m. ET

### January 15

Second Program Evaluation Report due



**To find RTA information, go to [education.ky.gov](http://education.ky.gov) and type RTA in the search box.**